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(c) whether there are any proposals with the Government to keep the introduction of the resettlement rates in abeyance until better times; and, if so, what those proposals are; and

(d) what the enhancement or reduction of the existing rates of assessment is that is proposed in the resettlement?

A.—(a) & (b) The introduction of resettlement in the seven southern taluks of the Salem district, viz., Salem, Attur, Rasipur, Namakkal, Harur, Tiruchengodu and Omalur is either due in 1934–35 or, where due in 1933–34, has been postponed to that year. Resettlement operations are now in progress in these taluks.

The resettlement of the northern taluks of Hosur, Krishnagiri and Dharmapuri is due in 1936–37 and that of the hill villages is due in 1935–36.

Resettlement operations are now going on in the hill villages, but no operations have yet commenced in the northern taluks.

(c) & (d) A definite decision as to the rates of assessment to be adopted at the resettlement, and the date of their introduction, will be made when the scheme report has been published for criticism and considered.

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—"May I know when the scheme report is expected to be published?"

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—"I cannot say definitely; but I expect it will be published in the course of two or three months."

Extent of waste lands in South Kanara suitable for cashew cultivation.

* 37 Q.—Mr. M. S. Sreshta: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what the extent of the Government waste land is in the South Kanara district;

(b) what use is made of it; and

(c) how much of it is suitable for cashew cultivation?

A.—(a) to (c) In 1918 the area of waste land at the disposal of Government in the South Kanara district was reported to be about 1,278,000 acres. The Government have no more recent or accurate information. The Collector then reported that the area did not represent correctly the extent available for cultivation, as it included large areas wholly unsuited for cultivation, such as laterite hill-tops and jungle; also land situated in malarial and unpopulated tracts; also Kumaki land. It would be impossible without an elaborate enquiry to ascertain how much of it is suited for cashew cultivation.

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—" Is not the hon. the Revenue Member aware that the cashew cultivation has received considerable impetus of late? "

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—" In view of that fact, will he consider the desirability of having an enquiry made as to how the 1,278,000 acres can be utilized usefully for the purpose of cashew cultivation? "

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" It is open to any one to apply for waste land; and if the hon. Member considers that Government should take certain steps to encourage the cashew cultivation, that is a matter which should be placed before the Minister in charge of Agriculture."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" The answer states that the Government have no information as to the extent of cultivable waste lands in the South Kanara district. May I know if the hon. the Revenue Member would have us believe that the Government have not got at their disposal information in respect of each district of this Province, regarding the total extent of waste lands, and the extent of cultivable waste lands? "

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" It is not possible to say exactly what area of waste fields is really suitable for cultivation; they may include rocky land not suitable for cultivation."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" May I know from the hon. Member whether the statistics in the seasonal crop reports, published under the authority of the Government by the Director of Agriculture indicating the total extent of waste lands in each district, classified as suitable and unsuitable for cultivation, can be relied upon as accurate or not? "

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" But they are not only lands at the disposal of Government but private lands as well. And the figures contained there must be correct."

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—" The answer states that the 'Government have no more recent or accurate information.' Will the hon. Member be pleased to call for up-to-date and accurate information from the Collector? "

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" I think some such information will be obtained as a result of the resettlement operations now going on."

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—" Will the hon. Member consider the desirability of enquiring from the Collector what use can be made of these large extents of waste lands? "

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" I think, Sir, that is a matter relating to the Agricultural department, not to the Revenue Department. We have now a department of experts for the development of agriculture in this Province and therefore any enquiry relating to agriculture should be taken up by that officer, and questions relating thereto should be addressed to my Colleague, the hon. Minister for Development."

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Mr. M. S. Sreshta:—" Would it not be better if the hon. the Revenue Member himself takes the necessary action? I think one department may certainly make a suggestion to another department."

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—" I think it is not necessary as the subject relates to the Agricultural department."

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" Arising from the answer given by the hon. Member, may I know whether there is any Minister for Development in this Province? "

(No answer.)

Rate of water-charge in the districts of Kistna and Godavari for dry inam and Government lands.

* 38 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state the rates at which irrigation of dry inam and Government lands with the help of Government water is charged respectively, in the resettled areas of Kistna and Godavari districts, and if the rates differ, why?

A.—The rates of water-cess are embodied in Appendix I-B, Part I to Board's Standing Order No. 4, paragraph 2, as amended by correction slip No. 9, dated 19th August 1932. The charges made for the irrigation of Government dry land are the same as those made for the irrigation of inam dry land, except in the following respect:—

The charge for a second wet crop raised on Government dry lands in the delta tracts is half the charge for a first wet crop, whereas the charge for a second wet crop raised on zamindari and inam lands, lanka and padugai lands, and Government dry lands in the upland villages irrigated with water of the Kistna or Godavari is the same as for the first wet crop. This follows the practice which has been in vogue for a long time.

Mr. P. Peddi Raju:—" Considering the increased rate of water-cess imposed recently, will the Government consider the desirability of reducing the rates? "

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—" No, Sir."

Mr. P. Peddi Raju:—" Are the Government aware that in the zamindari lands also the rates are as high as Government assessment, with the result that the zamindari ryots suffer by having to pay double the rate the Government charge? "

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—" I am not aware what the rates of assessment in the zamindari land are."

Mr. P. Peddi Raju:—" The rates in the zamindari lands are much more than the Government assessment. The Government ought to know that the zamindari rates are very high and that the tenants consequently suffer very much."

(No reply.)